Message Text

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2.1

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OFA-01

OES-05 DLOS-04 ACDA-10 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 /089 W ------ 027410

R 121725Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5407

INFO CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USNATO 1132

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0659

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, GW

SUBJECT: GOI URGED TO ACT AGAINST FRG TACTICS IN FISHERIES DISPUTE

1. IN MOST EXPLICIT LANGUAGE HE HAS USED TO DATE, POWERFUL ALTHING FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN THORARINN THORARINSSON HAS AGAIN EDITORIALLY ATTACKED FRG FOR IMPOSING LANDING BAN ON ICELANDIC CATCH AND ITS VETO OF ICELAND-EEC TARIFF AGREEMENT, AND URGED GOI ACTION IN RESPONSE. WRITING IN JUNE 12 PROGRESSIVE PARTY DAILY TIMINN (OF WHICH HE IS EDITOR), THORARINSSON MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE GOI COUNTER MEASURES SPECIAL TARIFF ON FRG IMPORTS OR TERMINATION BY ICELAND OF TRADE AGREEMENT WITH EEC. "BOTH OF THESE (MEASURES) MUST BE CONSIDERED BY THE ALTHING AND THE CABINET IF THERE IS NOT AN EARLY CHANGE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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THE WEST GERMAN POSITION," HE CONCLUDED.

2. COMMENT: WHATEVER VALIDITY OF THORARINSSON'S THREATS (OR EFFECTIVENESS IF THEY MATERIALIZE), HE IS KEEPING THIS SENSITIVE ISSUE BEFORE PUBLIC WITH INCREASING FERVOR. THIS IS THE SAME SORT OF TACTIC THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY LEADERSHIP EMPLOYED IN THE LEFTIST GOVERNMENT DURING THE "COD WAR" WITH THE BRITISH IN TRYING TO FORCE A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE FISHERIES LIMIT DISPUTE AND ICELAND'S MEMBERSHIP IN NATO ON THE ONE HAND, AND RETENTION OF IDF ON THE OTHER. SHOULD ICELAND'S ECONOMIC SITUATION CONTINUE TO WORSEN, THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY COULD INDEED STIR THE ALTHING INTO CAUSING US SOME DISCOMFIT. AS OF NOW, HOWEVER, IT LOOKS AS IF THESE TACTICS WILL UNTIMATELY FAIL BECAUSE OF PRESENCE OF INDEPEN-DENCE PARTY IN THE GOVERNMENT. **IRVING**

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To: STATE

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